

Message Text

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ORIGIN PRS-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-06 ISO-00 RSC-01 /009 R

DRAFTED BY S/PRS:RANDERSON:AVW

APPROVED BY S/PRS:RANDERSON

EUR/P:ESAVAGE

EUR:WSTABLER

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R 042039Z SEP 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

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E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: SOPN, GR

SUBJ: NEW YORK TIMES ARTICLE

FOR DCM STEARNS FROM S/PRS ANDERSON

1. IN SEPTEMBER 1 EDITION OF NEW YORK TIMES, STEVEN ROBERTS REPORTED FOLLOWING IN ARTICLE DEALING WITH USIS TRANSLATION OF WORD "RUBBISH". BEGIN QUOTE. LAST WEEK SEVERAL EUROPEAN NEWSPAPERS REPORTED THAT THE AMERICAN SIXTH FLEET HAD STOPPED GREEK AIRCRAFT FROM JOINING THE FIGHTING IN CYPRUS. A STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN, ASKED FOR A COMMENT ON THE REPORT, SAID: 'IT IS JUST COMPLETE RUBBISH.' END QUOTE.

2. JUST FOR THE RECORD, QUESTION HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH SIXTH FLEET. BRIEF EXCHANGE WENT AS FOLLOWS: BEGIN QUOTE. QUESTION: I WOULD LIKE TO ASK THIS QUESTION-- BECAUSE I DON'T BELIEVE IT HAS BEEN RAISED HERE AT ALL. THERE ARE CONSIDERABLE REPORTS AND SPECULATIONS OVERSEAS THAT THE UNITED STATES PLANNED TO OBTAIN A BASE OUT OF THE TURKISH HOLDINGS ON CYPRUS. COULD YOU ADDRESS YOURSELF TO THAT?

ANSWER: I HAVE SEEN THESE REPORTS. I SAW ONE OUT OF
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CAIRO. AND I THINK LE MONDE CARRIED A REPORT, ALSO. ALL I

CAN SAY IS IT IS JUST COMPLETE RUBBISH. END QUOTE. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, PUBLIC ATTITUDES, MILITARY BASES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: shawdg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE193790
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RANDERSON:AVW
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740245-1002
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740975/aaaaclic.tel
Line Count: 62
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN PRS
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 MAY 2002 by martinml>; APPROVED <04 MAR 2003 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NEW YORK TIMES ARTICLE FOR DCM STEARNS FROM S/PRS ANDERSON
TAGS: SOPN, GR, US
To: ATHENS
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005